

TOWN OF EGREMONT, MASSACHUSETTS
MEETING OF THE SELECT BOARD
MINUTES

Date: June 25, 2016
Time: 10:00AM
Place: Town Hall
Egremont

Present at the head table were Chairman Flynn, Selectman Brazie, John Morgan of CHA Consulting. Present in the audience were Craig Scott, Dave & Lori Christine, Mark Hacker, Ken Schwartz, Pia Mentzinger, Jim Spaulding, Warren Candee, Mary & Nick Cooper, Robert & Linda Katz, Sara and Mr. Oleskar.

This meeting is recorded for the purpose of transcribing minutes and is video recorded.

The purpose of the meeting was to seek feedback from residents of Mount Washington Road on the proposed reconstruction project.

Chairman Flynn opened the meeting with a brief introduction of the reason for the meeting. He introduced Mr. Morgan who works for CHA Consulting who has been retained by the Town as the engineering firm for the project. He then turned the meeting over to John Morgan.

Mr. Morgan explained the project, the funds being sought, the towns cost, the current conditions of Mount Washington Road, the probable need to widen the road in some areas, the need for drainage, MassDOT's standards and waivers that can be sought to same, safety issue regarding the guard rails and signage, time line, the need for public involvement and the role of the various state/federal agencies that will be involved.

Citizen Feedback:

If driveways are to be reconfigured who pays? The project funding will include funds for this and for driveway aprons.

Protection of water supply. Is a must for any project and will be monitored very closely.

Access to homeowners properties during construction. The road will remain open for traffic at all times, if only as one lane. Any blockage of driveways would be short term and residents will be given 48 hours notice.

Bicycle traffic - it was felt it was not necessary to widen the road for this purpose.

Speeding is already an issue. Concern is that a new surface will turn it into a speedway and make it more dangerous.

Keep the widening within reason. It was noted that the road will not be made any wider then the bridges.

Pay attention to site lines.

Work will not extend beyond the town line into Mount Washington.

MassDOT mandates are too much for our road. There are relaxed standards for rural roads and waivers can be obtained.

Enforcement of speeders. The Board will ask the Police Department to step up patrols.

Drainage issues relating to a culvert being removed many years ago by a resident. This will be looked into.

In response to concerns about "elastic" the state/federal government would be with the planning, Mr. Morgan noted that there are criteria we have to meet for design acceptance, but that waivers are available based on right-of-way impacts, environmental concerns, costs, rural character, and traffic

volume.

There are significant environmental concerns with the area, which is in an ACEC.
The roadway as it passes Smiley's Pond is an area of concern.

The next steps are to complete a project initiation form to present to Berkshire Regional Planning in the near future.

The time frame for the project is anywhere from 4 to 8 years.

Meeting adjourned at 10:47am.

Mary Brazie,
Office Administrator

minutes.16/jun25

The recording of the minutes is on record at the Town Hall for 90 days. Anyone who wishes to may obtain a copy or listen to the recording at Town Hall. Attachments are on file at Town Hall.